

**Why do I have to get an emissions test?** The Illinois EPA's vehicle emissions testing program (I/M Program) plays an important role in improving air quality and public health in Illinois. Motor vehicle exhaust emissions are a significant source of pollution, including carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons. These pollutants can be harmful to human health and the environment and lead to the formation of ground level ozone (smog). Exhaust emissions from cars and trucks are one of the single greatest sources of air pollution in the Chicago and Metro-East St. Louis areas.

The I/M Program is a federal and State mandate in the Chicago and Metro-East St. Louis areas because these areas do not meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone. The I/M Program helps reduce air pollution from motor vehicles in these areas of Illinois and is part of Illinois EPA's strategy to reduce air pollution in Illinois and bring the Chicago and Metro-East areas into attainment of the ozone NAAQS.

**When will you re-open emissions testing stations and what locations will be open?**

Emissions testing resumes June 1, 2020 at most Air Team testing locations. The Markham and Waukegan Air Team testing locations are currently being used as COVID-19 testing sites and are not available for emissions testing. Those normally testing at Markham or Waukegan are encouraged to delay testing if possible or test at another centralized, high-capacity drive-through testing location. For a list of Air Team testing locations currently open, please visit [www.illinoisairteam.net/testing-station-locator](http://www.illinoisairteam.net/testing-station-locator).

**What are your hours of operation for emissions testing?**

Currently, hours of operation at all open Air Team testing locations are 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, excluding State holidays. Any changes to hours of operation will be posted on our website [[www.illinoisairteam.net](http://www.illinoisairteam.net)].

**When should I test my vehicle?**

SOS has extended vehicle registration expiration dates by at least 90 days. If you do not feel comfortable visiting an Air Team testing location, you may take advantage of the registration expiration extension or you may have someone else bring your vehicle in for emissions testing.

In order to reduce traffic volume at stations and wait time, motorists should test their vehicles in the months identified in the table below. Updates to this table will be posted on our website [[www.illinoisairteam.net](http://www.illinoisairteam.net)]. Those normally testing their vehicles at Markham and Waukegan (currently closed due to COVID-19 testing) are encouraged to delay testing if possible or test at another centralized, high-capacity drive-through testing location. For a list of Air Team testing locations currently open, please visit [www.illinoisairteam.net/testing-station-locator](http://www.illinoisairteam.net/testing-station-locator).

Registration Expiration	Suggested Test Month
March 2020	Test in June 2020
April 2020	Test in July 2020
May 2020	Test in August 2020
June 2020	Test in September 2020

### **How long do I have to test my vehicle?**

To help motorists deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, vehicle registration expiration dates have been extended without penalty for at least 90 days. If you do not feel comfortable visiting an Air Team testing location, you may take advantage of the registration expiration extension or you may have someone else bring your vehicle in for emissions testing. Please refer to the FAQ above: **“When should I test my vehicle?”**

### **How can I check if my vehicle is due for an emissions test?**

Motorists can find out when their vehicle is due for an emissions test by entering the VIN or license plate number into our Vehicle Eligibility Check tool [[www.illinoisairteam.net/vehicle-eligibility-check-tool](http://www.illinoisairteam.net/vehicle-eligibility-check-tool)]. Remember that registration expiration dates have been extended. Please refer to the FAQs above: **“How long do I have to test my vehicle?”** and **“When should I test my vehicle?”**

### **Any special considerations for the elderly, healthcare workers, first responders, individuals with compromised immune systems or chronic medical conditions?**

We encourage the elderly, healthcare workers, first responders, and those with compromised immune systems or pre-existing health conditions to visit Air Team testing locations during the first testing hour of each day (8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Mondays through Fridays and 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. on Saturdays). We ask those without these special considerations to arrive at testing facilities after the first testing hour of each day.

### **What precautions are being taken to protect motorists and Air Team staff?**

Extensive precautions are in place and follow Illinois Department of Public Health COVID-19 Workplace Guidelines to protect motorists and our staff. Illinois Air Team staff will:

- Wear face masks at all times
- Practice social distancing protocols
- Clean and disinfect stations regularly
- Minimize contact with vehicles

### **What precautions can I take to help with safety during the pandemic?**

Customers are asked to abide by the following:

- One person per vehicle and no pets or passengers
- Wear masks to be served
- Practice social distancing
- Follow Air Team testing location directions regarding maintaining social distancing

### **Can someone else bring my vehicle in for an emissions test?**

The registered owner does not have to bring their vehicle in to be tested. We strongly suggest those individuals with compromised immune systems or chronic medical conditions have someone else bring the vehicle in to be tested or take advantage of the registration expiration extension in place.

### **Are all Air Team testing stations currently open?**

COVID-19 testing is currently taking place at the Markham and Waukegan Air Team testing locations and emissions testing is not available at these locations. For a list of Air Team testing locations currently open, please visit [www.illinoisairteam.net/testing-station-locator](http://www.illinoisairteam.net/testing-station-locator).

When emissions testing resumes at Markham and Waukegan, information will be provided on our website.

**What changes in testing procedures will I notice?**

- Motorists will be asked to provide vehicle mileage verbally
- Motorists will wait in designated areas outside of waiting booths for motorist safety and to maintain social distancing during emissions tests
- All passengers will be asked to exit the vehicle and wait in designated areas while wearing a mask to maintain social distancing during the test, but motorists are asked to not bring passengers with them
- Staff will make every attempt not to touch your vehicle except to connect and disconnect test equipment
- Staff will ask if you wish to receive a paper copy of your test results

**Do I have to take a copy of my test results?**

To minimize contact, motorists are not required to take a copy of their test results. Passing test results are transmitted to SOS automatically and electronically. Documents can be placed in the vehicle without contact if desired. There will also be an option to take a photo of testing documents with your phone. Receiving a paper copy of passing test results is not necessary to renew your registration.

**Will the police ticket me for an expired registration?**

The Secretary of State Police has notified Illinois law enforcement and law enforcement agencies across the country of the registration expiration extension. The Secretary of State has encouraged police departments across the state not to write tickets.

**Do I have to pass the test before I can renew my vehicle registration?**

Vehicles must pass an emissions test or otherwise comply with the Illinois Vehicle Emissions Inspection Law of 2005 (625 ILCS 5/13C) ("Inspection Law") before the vehicle's registration can be renewed.

**Can I purchase my vehicle sticker at the testing stations?**

Vehicle stickers are sold in the office at all centralized testing facilities. Extensive precautions are in place and follow Illinois Department of Public Health COVID-19 Workplace Guidelines to protect motorists and our staff.